

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are now pending in the application. Minor amendments have been made to the specification and claims. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein and the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith.

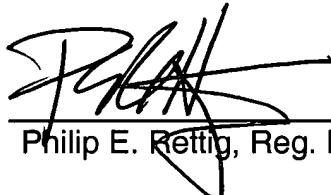
DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,745,879. In view of the Terminal Disclaimer submitted herewith in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.32(c) and 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b), Applicant believes that the double patenting basis for rejecting all pending claims has been addressed and now respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Philip E. Retting, Reg. No. 34,000

Dated: July 14, 2004

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

PER/lkb